

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2396

To unfreeze funding for contracts of the Department of Agriculture, to prohibit Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service office closures, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2025

Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RILEY of New York, and Mr. MCGOVERN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To unfreeze funding for contracts of the Department of Agriculture, to prohibit Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service office closures, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Honor Farmer Con-
5 tracts Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FUNDING AND OF-**
7 **FICES.**

8 The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

1 (1) immediately after the enactment of this Act,
2 unfreeze funding for and implement all written
3 agreements and contracts entered into by the Sec-
4 retary of Agriculture prior to the date of enactment
5 of this Act;

6 (2) as rapidly as possible after the enactment of
7 this Act, pay all past due amounts owed by the Sec-
8 retary of Agriculture under agreements and con-
9 tracts described in paragraph (1);

10 (3) not cancel any signed agreement or contract
11 with a farmer or an entity providing assistance to
12 farmers, unless the farmer or entity has failed to
13 comply with the terms and conditions of the con-
14 tract; and

15 (4) not close any Farm Service Agency county
16 office, Natural Resources Conservation Service field
17 office, or Rural Development Local Service Center
18 without providing written notice and justification to
19 Congress not later than 60 days before the date on
20 which the applicable office or center is intended to
21 be closed.

○